

hundred. The second (and larger) series will omit only the ubiquitous tropical species, especially those of the sea coast, and will cost thirty marks per hundred. The determinations will be elaborated by the undersigned, assisted by various monographers. He will be pleased to receive subscriptions to either series, but without prepayment. In view of the difficulties of transportation in the island, only a limited number of sets will be collected; and a prompt notification is requested from those who wish to subscribe.

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A new lichen.

In 1886 I found a peculiar lichen on rocks in Catawba River. I sent it to Dr. J. W. Eckfeldt, of Philadelphia, and he to Mr. H. Willey, of New Bedford. The latter called it an *Opegrapha*. Lately I sent Mr. Willey better plants than he had seen, and he says it is not an *Opegrapha*, and has named it *Buellia Catawbensis*, n. sp. He gives the following description: Thallus thickish, squamulose, peltate, orbicular, about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in diameter (I should say from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$), sub-entire, white, beneath black and naked: apothecia innate-superficial, the disk even with the thallus, black, at length crowded and confluent in the center of the thallus: hypothecium black, the proper exciple deficient: paraphyses distinct, agglutinate: spores oblong-ellipsoid, 2-loc., brown, .015-18 mm. by .007-8 mm.—On rocks along Catawba River Landsford, S. C., *Prof. H. A. Green*, 1886. A singular plant without near affinity. Taken from "Introduction to the Study of Lichens," by H. Willey.

H. A. GREEN.

Chester, S. C.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

Physiological Botany: An abridgement of the student's guide to structural, morphological and physiological botany, by Robert Bentley, F. L. S. Prepared as a sequel to "Descriptive Botany," by Eliza A. Youmans. pp. xiv, 292. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1886.

If any single term is to be used for this book, it should be *structural* rather than physiological botany, for it deals mostly with anatomy, less than one-third being devoted to physiology. We can not see that it is properly a sequel to Miss Youmans' "Descriptive Botany," for, with the exception of the impracticable "popular flora" of that work, this one covers much the same ground. It is a book of the old style, a compendious mass of facts, essential and trivial, about structure and function, condensed to the last degree, and therefore more useful as a book of reference than as a text book. Viewed in that light, it has not been improved by abridgment. It is of the "old style," in that it has no open questions. Its dictum, *ex cathedra* alike on fact and hypothesis, leaves the student no reason to doubt that all questions are forever settled.

With the structural part we have little fault to find, except with the illustrations, which are very uneven in quality; a few good, the majority only tolerable, and some very poor. The statements are in the main